

Vista student's artwork featured in Valley Metro calendar

Vista del Sur third grade student Sophia Kinnaid's artwork is featured in the 2019 Valley Metro calendar.

Vista's third grade gifted students entered the 14th Annual Cool Transit Calendar Art Contest. Representatives from Valley Metro stopped by Vista to make the announcement.



Her work will be featured in the calendar for the month of December 2019.

She received a backpack filled with Valley Metro items, an art box, and gift cards. Her classmates also received copies of the calendar and other Valley Metro merchandise.

Desert Meadows teacher receives National Board Certification

Desert Meadows teacher Steven Humble received his National Board Certification, the highest professional certification in the teaching profession.

To become certified, teachers must demonstrate standards-based evidence of the positive effect they have on student learning in alignment with the program's core areas. Developed by teachers, the National Board Standards represent a consensus among educators about what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do.



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Laveen expanding preschool to Vista del Sur

The Laveen District will be opening its third preschool program in Fall 2019 at Vista del Sur. Vista will join Desert Meadows and Paseo Pointe schools in offering an academics-based preschool program for children ages 3-5 years old.

Like Desert Meadows, Vista's program will offer general education instruction. Paseo Pointe's preschool will continue to offer dual language immersion programming. The district also operates a developmental preschool for children with special needs on the

Laveen School campus.

A preschool addition is currently being constructed at Vista in preparation of opening in August 2019. It was designed by EMC2 architects; SD Crane Builders, Inc. is the contractor.

Preschool registrations will be accepted beginning at 8:30 a.m. on February 5, 2019. Registrations must be completed in person at the Kids Klub office located at Desert Meadows School, 6855 W. Meadows Loop East. Visit www.laveeneld.org/preschool for more details including fees, requirements, and program offerings.

Laveen students, teachers participate in Hour of Code

The Hour of Code is an event where educators from across the globe spend an hour introducing computer science to students. This year, 275 teachers across all eight Laveen schools participated in the event.

Paseo Pointe School and Desert Meadows School invited industry professionals and college computer science majors to volunteer during their events.

The goal of Hour of Code is to bring awareness to the importance of learning computer science. Laveen schools have definitely contributed to this goal.



Chief Science Officers host STEM Pathways

Laveen's Chief Science Officers hosted a district-wide STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Pathways event in December.



This event gave families the opportunity to learn about STEM resources from kindergarten through career.

Participants included Laveen schools, Fairfax and

Chavez High Schools, Arizona State University, Grand Canyon University, University of Advancing Technology, non-profits, government agencies, and STEM industry.

Laveen teacher honored at Cheez It Bowl

Laveen School teacher Gavin Tucker is the recipient of a \$5,000 grant from the Fiesta Bowl Charities' Wishes for Teachers program.

The funding was awarded to the school's Mind, Body, & Spirit program.

In addition to the grant, Tucker was given tickets to the 2019

Cheez It Bowl where he was honored on the field along with other grant recipients.



Hall, Lopez are November's Employees of the Month

Employees of the month for November were Leah Hall, Laveen Elementary junior high special education teacher, and Carolyn Lopez, M.C. Cash Instructional Associate.

Hall was nominated for being a role model for kindness, leadership, health, and fitness on her campus. As a junior high SPED teacher, Hall goes above and beyond to meet the individual needs of all students on her case load. She is an amazing advocate for her students. Her ability to nurture ensures that her students are functioning successfully each day. She is always finding a better, more efficient way to make students and staff realize their potential. She keeps other staff involved in shared student goals, progress, and success and is an invaluable mentor to all. Her healthy mindset and kind spirit is projected and felt from the 8:00 yoga session to the last bell of the day.

Lopez may be a one-on-one aide to an individual student, but she builds positive relationships with all students that she meets. She takes initiative to support teachers in the classroom, and she even pulls small groups at times. She helps out across the campus when she can, bringing students back from specials and recess on her own. She is known for being caring and going the extra mile to build relationships and support the students.



Hall



Lopez